

INKJET MFPS

INTRODUCTION

Inkjet printers are small, inexpensive and produce great results, so they are ideal for use at home. If you want to scan documents, though, you'll also need a flatbed scanner. These aren't too expensive, but they will take up more room on your desk. With an inkjet printer and scanner, you can also make copies, but it won't always be easy. If you know you want to print, scan and make copies, you're better off buying one product that can do it all.

A multifunctional peripheral (MFP) is a small device that incorporates a printer and a scanner in one. You can use one to print, scan and even make copies at the touch of a button and without your PC. They're convenient and easy to use and, remarkably, they needn't cost much more than a simple inkjet printer.

We've reviewed nine clever devices that cost as little as £55. Whatever you want to print, scan and copy, we'll help you choose the perfect all-round performer.

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Printers correspondent



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MULTI-TASKERS

If you want convenience and versatility without compromise, can an MFP really do it all? We review nine variety acts that promise top-notch prints, copies and scans from just £55 inc VAT

Choosing an... Inkjet MFP

The sheer number of MFPs currently available is astounding. Although this gives you a lot of choice, it can also make choosing one a daunting prospect. With this in mind, it pays to think about how you'll be using your new device. Although these products can all print, copy and scan, some excel at printing photographs, and others are better if you scan regularly. Our guide will explain which features to look for when choosing one for your home.

PHOTO FINISH

When printing, you'll want your documents and photographs to arrive quickly rather than waiting around for ages for each page. As our table on page 96 shows, the speeds of the devices in this test vary considerably. Some, such as HP's C4180, are able to churn out pages of text on plain paper at almost 20 pages per minute (ppm), while Canon's MP510 can produce a 6x4in photo in as little as a minute and half.

However, there's no point getting prints quickly if they are not of a high enough quality to use. You can't judge print quality by looking at a device's specifications, so check our reviews to find out which produced perfect photographs and letter-quality text, and which fell short. Not all printers excel at both

photographs and office documents, so you will need to consider your requirements. If you want to print documents, look for an MFP that can create sharp black text with no spidery edges around the letters. If photographs are your priority, check our reviews to find one that reproduces colours accurately with very little or no visible grain.

Thankfully, some printers can do both, making them ideal for general use at home.

MONEY MATTERS

All the printers in this test are relatively inexpensive to buy, but over a few years the cost of ink cartridges can add up. Some printers are considerably cheaper to run than others, so if you plan to print lots of documents it's worth paying careful attention to the running costs listed in our table.

Most manufacturers give running cost information using the ISO/IEC 24712 standard. They publish the number of standard text and graphic pages that each cartridge will print, so we've divided the cost of high-yield cartridges by this number to produce a simple cost per page. Lexmark doesn't provide ISO cartridge life details for the single-colour cartridge used in its X2470, but as this printer creates black text by mixing together





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its coloured inks, it's highly unlikely to be good value for regular printing.

SHARP EYE

Though you're unlikely to use an MFP's scanner quite as often as the printer, it's still important to choose one that produces good results. This is particularly true if you edit photographs or produce creative documents, as you'll want to capture the colours and detail of scanned photos as accurately and clearly as possible.

Scanner resolutions are measured in dots per inch (dpi), and a higher resolution should help to capture more detail from photographs and documents. This isn't always the case, though, as a high resolution is of limited use if the scanner cannot focus accurately. Our reviews explain which devices produced sharp, accurate results, and which produced soft or discoloured images.

If you want to scan documents more than photographs, speed will be more useful to you than a high resolution. All nine devices produced 150dpi scans in perfectly acceptable times, but for the times taken to create better-quality scans you should check our table. We perform several scan tests to see which stay quick at higher resolutions and which slow down.

The quality and speed of the scanner also have an effect on the usefulness of a device for copying documents. Every product here can make a mono or colour copy without turning on

your PC, and most can make multiple copies in one operation. We've checked the quality of copies from each device, and timed them to see which are the fastest.

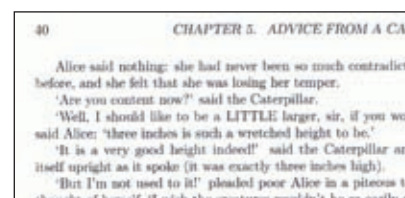
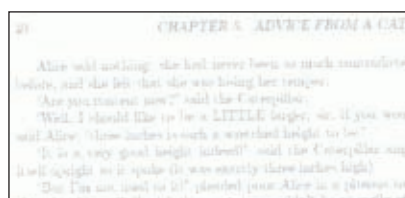
FUNCTION ROOM

As well as printing, scanning and copying, most devices here include extra features. Most can print directly from memory cards, and most have a PictBridge port so you can connect directly to a digital camera. For as little as £60, you can choose a device with a colour screen that makes it easy to select photos when printing from a memory card. Not all devices support all types of memory card, though, so check our table to see which are compatible with your digital camera.

HP's Photosmart 2575 has an Ethernet port, so it can be connected to a home or office network. This makes it easy for several PCs to print without swapping cables. The two more expensive Canon models have an infrared receiver, and several devices can be upgraded to connect to a wireless network or use Bluetooth.

While keen photographers are likely to have editing software already on their PCs, most devices here include a pack of software to help you print, scan and edit photographs. Some devices also include optical character recognition (OCR) software, allowing you to quickly convert printed pages into text documents that you can edit. Our table shows exactly what software is included with each product.

Look sharp Draft print quality compared



▲ The quality of draft text varies significantly. HP's Photosmart 2575 (right) produces full, black text, but text from Epson's Stylus DX5050 (left) is faint, broken and barely legible



LEXMARK X2470



£55 inc VAT

When we lined up all the MFPs in this test, Lexmark's X2470 stood out a mile. It's chunky and rather ugly. At just £55 including VAT, it is extremely cheap, but then so are Canon's Pixma MP180 and Epson's Stylus DX5050, and they both manage to be sturdier and more stylish.

The X2470 has no memory card slots or display. Without even a single-digit display, you're limited to making one single copy at a time, and these take over a minute to arrive. If you want to make extra copies, or to choose between copying in colour or mono, then you'll have to turn on your PC and use the supplied software.

Unusually, the X2470 uses only one ink cartridge and creates black ink by mixing three colours together. The results are poor. Normal text is almost cartoonish in its thick appearance and comes out closer to grey than black. It hits the output tray at just 2.9ppm, and if you switch to draft mode the boost to 9.4ppm is negated by the fact that the text is now blue. The output tray is ungainly and juts out significantly, and any slight nudge causes it to wobble all over the place. There's no stopper at the end to retain pages, although we printed 50 sheets on it without losing any of them.

It's not all bad news, though. The scanner may be slow, but it hinges upwards to accommodate thick documents. It produced images with accurate colour and a reasonable level of detail, despite having a lower scan resolution than most. The images were a bit too dark overall, but it was far from the worst in the group. The same can be said for its photo prints. These had plenty of detail and good natural colour tones, although we saw slight grain and a bit of banding.

VERDICT

The X2470 may be cheap, but you can get far more than this for your money. It produced reasonable photos and scans, but it feels flimsy and its single cartridge system produces extremely poor text prints.

SUMMARY

- ✓ Natural colours in photos; inexpensive
- ✗ Generally slow; banding in photo prints
- ✗ High running costs; terrible text

COLOUR INKJET MFP 4,800x1,200dpi print resolution, 17ppm mono/17ppm colour maximum speed, 600x1,200dpi scan resolution, USB Hi-Speed, PictBridge USB interfaces
PART CODE 0030A0002
SUPPLIER www.ebuyer.com
DETAILS www.lexmark.co.uk



EPSON Stylus DX5050



£55 inc VAT

Epson's Stylus DX5050 is an interesting blend of good and bad parts, all rolled into one very cheap device. At £55 including VAT, it's one of the cheapest MFPs here, so unsurprisingly it lacks more expensive features such as a colour screen. Instead, it has a single-digit display, which limits you to making no more than nine copies at a time, and a single fit-to-page button for resizing documents.

There's a PictBridge port on the front and some memory card slots behind a door, but the output tray is wobbly and struggles to hold more than 30 sheets of paper before tipping them on the floor.

The DX5050's scanner produces images that are full of sharpness and plenty of detail and, although slightly oversaturated, the colours are generally accurate enough to put it ahead of most other scanners here. The lid comes off completely to accommodate larger items, which is a nice touch, and it slots easily back on to the device again when you're done.

This scan quality comes at the expense of speed. The DX5050's scanner is the slowest in the group, and the device isn't much quicker when printing. Text documents appeared at just 3.4ppm and suffered from visible spidery edges around characters. The draft mode boosts this to a healthy 15.3ppm, but the text is so faint and broken that it's barely legible.

Printing photos using the DX5050 was slower than using any device bar Brother's DCP-330C. It took more than 20 minutes to produce six 6x4in prints. Much like the high-quality but slow scan results, though, photo prints were impressive, with accurate colours and sharp edges. Our one complaint is that Epson prints tend to have a slightly colder tone than most, but this is a matter of taste.

VERDICT

The DX5050 produces excellent scans and decent photo prints, but these results are offset by the sheer tedium of waiting for them. This is the best of the cheapest devices here, but it's still not great.

SUMMARY

- ✓ Detailed scans; sharp and accurate photos
- ✓ Inexpensive to buy; reasonable running costs
- ✗ Painfully slow scanning and printing

COLOUR INKJET MFP 5,760x1,440dpi print resolution, 27ppm mono/26ppm colour maximum speed, 1,200x2,400dpi scan resolution, USB Hi-Speed, PictBridge USB interfaces
PART CODE C11C650024
SUPPLIER www.dabs.com
DETAILS www.epson.co.uk



CANON Pixma MP180



£56 inc VAT

Canon's Pixma MP180 has a two-line black-and-white LCD screen. This is better than the single-digit display used by Epson's Stylus DX5050, but it is marred by a very confusing menu system and controls. Printing from the PictBridge port or memory card slots is made far trickier than it should be.

This is a very large device considering its low price, but the paper input tray is flimsy and the output tray is merely an inelegant fold-down door. The output tray appears to be too short to retain paper comfortably, but the MP180 feeds its sheets out gently enough to avoid a mess of paper on the floor.

The MP180 has two cartridges, one black and one tri-colour, with high yield versions costing £14 and £17. This makes it fairly expensive to run. No photo cartridge is available, so we weren't too surprised to see that it produces decent but unspectacular photo prints. It's not as fast as the MP510, but otherwise it prints photos quicker than all but the two HP devices. Its speed of 7.7ppm in our normal text test is the joint highest in this group, but text suffered from some visible spidering around the edges of characters and even looked slightly blurry in some tests.

The scanner was also one of the quickest in the group. Its lid hinges upwards for scanning thicker items and its driver is one of the simplest to use. The colour accuracy of our test scans was very good, although they were a little too dark and lacked the sharp focus and detail of the better models. This led to our copy test document appearing slightly out of focus, although again its colours were very accurate.

VERDICT

For just £56 including VAT we didn't expect a great deal, but the MP180's menu and control system left us frustrated and unimpressed. It prints and scans some documents quickly, but the results aren't always good and the quality of text documents is disappointing. It's worth spending a little more for a better device.

SUMMARY

- ✓ Fast prints and scans
- ✗ Frustrating menu system; high print costs
- ✗ Imperfect text and out-of-focus scans

COLOUR INKJET MFP 4,800x1,200dpi print resolution, 22ppm mono/17ppm colour maximum speed, 1,200x2,400dpi scan resolution, USB Hi-Speed, PictBridge USB interfaces
PART CODE 1448B008AA
SUPPLIER www.ebuyer.com
DETAILS www.canon.co.uk



HP Photosmart 2575

★★★★★

£60 inc VAT



HP's Photosmart 2575 is one of the more sleek and stylish devices in the group, and has a pleasantly rounded silver finish. Like the more expensive C4180, it uses an external power supply, which is annoying, but in most other respects it has its more costly sibling beaten.

Its scanner is excellent, producing images with much more detail than the others in the group thanks to its high optical resolution. It reproduces colours extremely accurately, and even recorded minute pieces of dust that were present on our sample page. The lid detaches completely to accommodate larger items, and there are memory card slots and a PictBridge port on the left of the front panel. A 2in colour screen sits on the right side, and the buttons helpfully all have text labels rather than confusing symbols. Paper is loaded into the front tray and comes out in the same place, and we were pleasantly surprised to see that it can connect to a network using the 10/100 Ethernet port on the back. This makes it ideal for sharing between several computers.

The 2575 takes two ink cartridges and can use HP's high yield cartridges, so running costs are low. The quality of text documents produced in our tests was excellent, with no spidering around letters. Colour documents were sharp and accurate, suffering only if you choose to use draft mode. This is acceptable given its speedy 19ppm rate, and 5.7ppm at normal quality isn't bad, either. It produces photos faster than all but Canon's MP510, but we found colours to be a bit fuzzy and too bright in places, with one yellow area appearing almost luminous. The 2575 can print borderless photos at panoramic sizes above A4.

VERDICT

The 2575 has the most accurate scanner of the group, and produces good text and document prints. It's stylish and cheap to run, although its photo prints aren't the best. It's good value for general use, and if you want to scan regularly it's the best device in the group.

SUMMARY

- ✓ Excellent detailed scans
- ✓ Network-compatible; low running costs
- ✗ Photo prints aren't so good

COLOUR INKJET MFP 4,800x1,200dpi print resolution, 30ppm mono/24ppm colour maximum speed, 2,400x4,800dpi scan resolution, USB Hi-Speed, PictBridge USB, 10/100 Ethernet interfaces
PART CODE Q7215B#ABU
SUPPLIER www.dabs.com
DETAILS www.hp.co.uk



HP Photosmart C4180

★★

£64 inc VAT

HP's Photosmart C4180 has an unusual design. Rather than having a hinged top, its whole front unclips to give access to the ink cartridges. It takes two cartridges, but is incompatible with HP's high yield tanks so it costs a little more to run than the cheaper 2575.

It can use a special photo cartridge that should produce better photo prints, but we found that photos came out with too much contrast. This makes yellow areas too bright, and we even saw spotted banding on all our photo tests. The quality of text documents was very good, although letters appeared slightly shaky in mixed colour documents, and our pictures and diagrams were reproduced with accurate colours.

The C4180 is let down by its scanner. Despite its high resolution, our test images came out far too light, with washed-out colours and too much contrast. This is a shame, as the level of detail picked up is generally impressive. If you have thick documents to scan you'll be disappointed, though, as the scanner lid is fixed in place. In our mono copy test, a large area of blue was copied into blotches of light and dark grey rather than one solid mass.

There are memory card slots on the left of the device, as well as an adjustable 2.4in colour screen and plenty of clear control buttons. These include controls for correcting photos when printing directly from a memory card. Oddly, this is the only device here without a PictBridge USB socket. Blank paper sits in the front tray and is returned to the same place after printing and, like the cheaper 2575, the C4180 uses an external power supply.

VERDICT

We were disappointed by the quality of the C4180's scans, although it is one of the quicker scanners in the group. Its photo prints aren't particularly good, either, although simple text documents were reproduced well. With the network-ready Photosmart 2575 costing less to buy and run, this model looks like poor value.

SUMMARY

- ✓ Lots of detail in scans and prints
- ✗ Washed-out colours in scans
- ✗ Banding in photo prints

COLOUR INKJET MFP 4,800x1,200dpi print resolution, 30ppm mono/24ppm colour maximum speed, 2,400dpi scan resolution, USB Hi-Speed interface
PART CODE Q8110B#ABU
SUPPLIER www.ebuyer.com
DETAILS www.hp.co.uk



EPSON Stylus DX6000

★★

£69 inc VAT

Epson's Stylus DX6000 is very similar to the DX5050 but costs £14 more, for which you get a few extra features. A 2in colour screen sits on the left side of the device, but it's fixed in place at a set angle, unlike the adjustable screens on many rival devices. It's very simple to use with plenty of buttons, although the only copy-resizing method is a simple fit-to-page option. The paper trays are the same as those on the cheaper model, as is the detachable scanner lid and the door on the front that conceals the memory card slots. It takes four separate ink tanks, which aren't too expensive to replace, so running costs are reasonably low.

The quality of text documents printed using the DX6000 wasn't quite up to scratch. We saw a significant amount of spidering around characters and colour documents had a slight graininess. Black areas were very slightly tinged brown, and draft text suffers from the same faint and broken appearance as that of the DX5050. Photos have a bit too much contrast, leaving yellows far too bright.

Like the DX5050, the DX6000's scanner is its best feature. It produces perfectly captured colour tones and a reasonable level of detail. The driver software offers modes for beginners and experts. It's not quite as sharp and focused as its cheaper sibling, but it's one of the better scanners in the group. This has the knock-on effect of producing good quality copies, too, with mono copies being especially accurate.

Speed is not the DX6000's strength, with a mono print rate of just 3.4ppm falling to 1.6ppm for colour. Six photos took over 20 minutes and a colour copy took almost a minute, while a 1,200dpi photo scan took nearly three-and-a-half minutes to complete.

VERDICT

The DX6000's scanner makes up for many of the deficiencies in the printer, but we got slightly better scan results from the cheaper DX5050. Unless you regularly print directly from memory cards, this model has few advantages over Epson's DX5050.

SUMMARY

- ✓ Decent scans; reasonable print costs
- ✗ Very slow at most tasks
- ✗ Too expensive for what it offers

COLOUR INKJET MFP 5,760x1,440dpi print resolution, 27ppm mono/27ppm colour maximum speed, 1,200x2,400dpi scan resolution, USB Hi-Speed, PictBridge USB interfaces
PART CODE C11C657011
SUPPLIER www.dabs.com
DETAILS www.epson.co.uk



CANON Pixma MP460

★★★★

£72 inc VAT

Canon's Pixma MP460 has a sleeker grey and white design than the cheaper MP180, but that's not all you get for the extra £16. It does away with the cheaper model's two-line LCD in favour of a better 1.9in colour screen and a more standard navigation control pad. This makes it easier to print from memory cards, inserted into slots behind a flap on the front.

The scanner lid hinges upwards, allowing you to scan or copy thicker items. The MP460 is compatible with an optional Bluetooth adaptor for printing directly from mobile phones and other devices. Despite these improvements, the printing system inside is the same as the MP180. This means that it uses the same two expensive cartridges and has the same high running costs.

Printing and scanning proved just as fast as the MP180 in our tests. The MP460 is extremely fast when producing text, although its quality isn't perfect. We expected its scanner to be directly comparable to the one on the MP180, too, but we were pleasantly surprised to see otherwise. It didn't suffer from the same lack of focus as the MP180, so it produced a bit more detail in darker areas and sharper edges to objects. This also improved the quality of copies, with our test document exhibiting sharper focus.

The MP460 took just 15 seconds to make a single mono copy, making it the fastest here. Unfortunately, the MP460 has flimsy-feeling paper trays, and the fold-down output tray doesn't hold paper as well as that of the cheaper MP180. After around 40 sheets had printed, we started losing pages on to the floor, making its quoted capacity of 50 sheets seem ambitious.

VERDICT

It's certainly worth spending £16 more to get the MP460 rather than the MP180, if only for its better screen and easier menu system. However, Canon's far superior Pixma MP510 costs only £1 more, and it is a far better buy than either of these.

SUMMARY

- ✓ Fast print and scan speeds
- ✗ Imperfect text printing
- ✗ High print costs; MP510 is better value

COLOUR INKJET MFP 4,800x1,200dpi print resolution, 22ppm mono/17ppm colour maximum speed, 1,200x2,400dpi scan resolution, USB Hi-Speed, PictBridge USB, IrDA infrared interfaces
PART CODE 14498008AA
SUPPLIER www.ebuyer.com
DETAILS www.canon.co.uk



BROTHER DCP-330C

★★★★

£72 inc VAT

At £72 including VAT, Brother's DCP-330C is one of the most expensive devices here and it includes some nice design touches. The USB port is tucked inside the device so the cable can't be pulled out accidentally. The 2in colour screen is accompanied by clearly labelled control buttons. You load the four ink tanks easily into the front of the printer, rather than reaching inside as you would with most MFPs.

There are odd choices, too. The paper tray is removable, allowing you to fill it comfortably, but once it's reinserted you have no way of knowing how much paper is left. Similarly, the dedicated photo tray needs to be pushed right into the printer once filled, so you can't even see when your photos have finished printing. The software doesn't display a progress window, which doesn't help.

This is rendered largely irrelevant, however, by its truly awful photo-printing performance. The DCP-330C took over 24 minutes to print six 6x4in photos, making it the slowest here. It also ignored the fact that we'd asked it to print borderless copies and it misfed all six sheets of photo paper. The results were unusable.

The scanner lid can be hinged up to make room for thick items. It proved the opposite of the slow, poor photo-printing, producing results at high resolutions in very fast times. Scans had plenty of detail. We found colours were a little oversaturated by default, but you can adjust the settings to produce better results. We spotted a similar problem with oversaturation in our copies, but overall quality was generally good.

Printed text showed slight spidering around characters. The draft output was a little broken up, if not as badly as draft text from the Epson printers.

VERDICT

For the high price, we expected more quality from Brother's DCP-330C. It has lots of features, but photo printing is painfully slow and unreliable and its text output isn't great, either. Its scanner is good, but generally this is a poor choice.

SUMMARY

- ✓ Fast and accurate scanner
- ✗ Awkward and unreliable photo printing
- ✗ Slightly spidery text

COLOUR INKJET MFP 6,000x1,200dpi print resolution, 25ppm mono/20ppm colour maximum speed, 2,400x600dpi scan resolution, USB Hi-Speed, PictBridge USB interfaces
PART CODE DCP330CU1
SUPPLIER www.ameiva.co.uk
DETAILS www.brother.co.uk



CANON Pixma MP510

★★★★★

£73 inc VAT



As the most expensive MFP here, we expected a lot from Canon's Pixma MP510, and it certainly didn't disappoint. It's the quickest of the group if you print photos, producing our six 6x4in test prints in less than eight minutes and making it almost two minutes faster than any rival here. Photo print quality is good, too, with plenty of detail and sharp edges. Only the slow Epson devices produce photos that are as good.

It uses four cartridges rather than the two used by cheaper Canon models. One is filled with pigment black ink for printing text, and it produces tremendous text quality. We could not spot any spidering or rough edges, and characters were solid and substantial. Despite this high quality, it manages to produce text at a quick 6.9ppm and the large capacities of its cartridges mean that it's also very cheap to run. For everyday printing, it's the best device in the group.

The design is rather unusual. It's quite boxy and plain, but once you flip up a panel on the right you'll find a 1.9in screen and a wide range of control buttons. As well as the usual top-loading paper tray, there's also an open tray on the front for more paper, and the 90° swivelling output tray is easily long enough to keep your prints together as they arrive.

Unfortunately, the scanner isn't quite up to the standard of the printer. It's very fast, but we noticed a slight lack of focus in our test images. A little fine detail was lost, but colour tone and brightness were very accurate, especially when compared to the other two Canon devices.

VERDICT

The MP510 may be the most expensive model here, but it more than justifies its higher price. Its print quality is excellent, particularly when reproducing text documents, but it's also quick and very cheap to print. If scanning is your main priority, we'd go for Epson's Stylus DX5050 or HP's Photosmart 2575 instead, but for most users this is the best product.

SUMMARY

- ✓ Superb text quality; low running costs
- ✓ Fast photo prints; speedy scanning
- ✗ Scans are slightly soft

COLOUR INKJET MFP 4,800x1,200dpi print resolution, 25ppm mono/17ppm colour maximum speed, 1,200x2,400dpi scan resolution, USB Hi-Speed, PictBridge USB, IrDA infrared interfaces
PART CODE 14508019AA
SUPPLIER www.ebuyer.com
DETAILS www.canon.co.uk

				BUDGET BUY				BEST BUY	
MANUFACTURER	LEXMARK	EPSON	CANON	HP	HP	EPSON	CANON	BROTHER	CANON
MODEL	X2470	Stylus DX5050	Pixma MP180	Photosmart 2575	Photosmart C4180	Stylus DX6000	Pixma MP460	DCP-330C	Pixma MP510
Rating	★	★★★	★★★	★★★★★	★★★	★★	★★★	★★★	★★★★★
Quoted speed, mono/colour	17ppm/17ppm	27ppm/26ppm	22ppm/17ppm	30ppm/24ppm	30ppm/24ppm	27ppm/27ppm	22ppm/17ppm	25ppm/20ppm	25ppm/17ppm
TESTED PRINT SPEEDS									
Test 1, 50-page text document	15m 17s (3.3ppm)	12m 53s (3.9ppm)	6m 7s (8.2ppm)	2m 38s (19ppm)	2m 32s (19.7ppm)	12m 53s (3.9ppm)	6m 6s (8.2ppm)	3m 26s (14.6ppm)	5m 8s (9.7ppm)
Test 1 duplex, 50-page text document	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Test 2 letter, time to first page	26s	21s	22s	20s	21s	21s	14s	28s	9s
Test 2 letter, total time for 50 copies	17m 18s (2.9ppm)	14m 42s (3.4ppm)	6m 30s (7.7ppm)	8m 44s (5.7ppm)	9m 38s (5.2ppm)	14m 37s (3.4ppm)	6m 29s (7.7ppm)	15m 3s (3.3ppm)	7m 12s (6.9ppm)
Test 3, mixed colour	12m 20s (1.9ppm)	15m 6s (1.6ppm)	14m 31s (1.7ppm)	11m 38s (2.1ppm)	11m 48s (2ppm)	15m 8s (1.6ppm)	14m 7s (1.7ppm)	12m 45s (1.9ppm)	11m 11s (2.1ppm)
Test 4, 10x8in photos	8m 43s	13m 19s	6m 23s	6m 30s	6m 38s	13m 16s	6m 26s	18m 17s	4m 51s
Test 5, 6x4in photos	13m 30s	20m 57s	10m 27s	9m 38s	9m 36s	20m 45s	10m 29s	24m 12s	7m 41s
TESTED SCAN SPEEDS									
Full scan area preview	9s	11s	6s	15s	8s	11s	6s	18s	7s
A4 document at 150dpi/300dpi	14s/43s	20s/36s	12s/20s	24s/41s	13s/23s	20s/37s	12s/20s	18s/38s	12s/21s
6x4in print at 600dpi/1,200dpi	1m 23s/3m 0s	54s/3m 25s	40s/2m 18s	41s/2m 14s	38s/2m 38s	53s/3m 26s	40s/2m 18s	36s/1m 3s	40s/2m 18s
TESTED COPY SPEEDS									
Single A4 page, mono, default quality	1m 5s	38s	15s	39s	29s	36s	15s	31s	15s
Single A4 page, colour, default quality	1m 42s	53s	57s	45s	39s	53s	57s	41s	37s
PRINT AND SCAN QUALITY									
Maximum resolution	4,800x1,200dpi	5,760x1,440dpi	4,800x1,200dpi	4,800x1,200dpi	4,800x1,200dpi	5,760x1,440dpi	4,800x1,200dpi	6,000x1,200dpi	4,800x1,200dpi
Number of colours (cartridges)	3 (1)	4 (4)	4 (2)	4 (2)	4 (2)	4 (4)	4 (2)	4 (4)	4 (4)
Maximum number of colours (cartridges)	3 (1)	4 (4)	4 (2)	6 (2)	6 (2)	4 (4)	4 (2)	4 (4)	4 (4)
Maximum optical scan resolution (output bit depth)	600x1,200dpi (36-bit)	1,200x2,400dpi (24-bit)	1,200x2,400dpi (48-bit)	2,400x4,800dpi (48-bit)	2,400dpi (48-bit)	1,200x2,400dpi (24-bit)	1,200x2,400dpi (48-bit)	2,400x600dpi (36-bit)	1,200x2,400dpi (48-bit)
PHYSICAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL									
Standard interfaces	USB Hi-Speed, PictBridge USB	USB Hi-Speed, PictBridge USB	USB Hi-Speed, PictBridge USB	USB Hi-Speed, PictBridge USB, 10/100 Ethernet	USB Hi-Speed	USB Hi-Speed, PictBridge USB	USB Hi-Speed, PictBridge USB, IrDA infrared	USB Hi-Speed, PictBridge USB	USB Hi-Speed, PictBridge USB, IrDA infrared
Optional interfaces	None	None	None	None	802.11g wireless	None	Bluetooth wireless	None	Bluetooth wireless
Dimensions (HxWxD)	152x375x286mm	181x430x345mm	183x443x381mm	172x440x284mm	162x434x567mm	181x463x354mm	185x443x417mm	150x398x360mm	171x444x365mm
Weight	4.9kg	5.7kg	6.5kg	5.5kg	5.4kg	6.5kg	7.1kg	7.3kg	7kg
Noise	50dBA	Not disclosed	48dBA	60dBA	69dBA maximum	Not disclosed	45.5dBA	Not disclosed	38.5dBA
Duty cycle (sheets per month)	1,000 pages	Not disclosed	Not disclosed	5,000 pages	3,000 pages	Not disclosed	Not disclosed	Not disclosed	Not disclosed
Power consumption printing	Not disclosed	13W	13W maximum	70W maximum	29.9W maximum	13W	13W	Not disclosed	25W
Power consumption sleep mode	Not disclosed	4W	2W	8W	Not disclosed	4W	2W	Not disclosed	2W
PAPER HANDLING									
Maximum paper size (print)	A4/legal	A4/legal	A4/legal	A4/legal, custom length up to 610mm	A4/legal, custom length up to 610mm	A4/legal	A4/legal	A4/legal	A4/legal
Standard paper inputs (capacity)	1 (100)	1 (100)	1 (100)	1 (100)	1 (100)	1 (100)	1 (100)	1 (100)	2 (250)
Output tray capacity	50 sheets	100 sheets	50 sheets	50 sheets	50 sheets	100 sheets	50 sheets	50 sheets	50 sheets
Duplex	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
Automatic document feeder capacity	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
COPY FEATURES									
Maximum number of copies	1	9	99	50	50	99	99	99	99
Copier zoom range	25-400%	Fit-to-page	25-400%	50-400%	50-400%	Fit-to-page	25-400%	25-400%	25-400%
Maximum mono copy resolution	600dpi	1,200x2,400dpi	600dpi	1,200x1,200dpi	1,200dpi	1,200x2,400dpi	600dpi	1,200x1,200dpi	600dpi
Maximum colour copy resolution	600dpi	1,200x2,400dpi	1,200dpi	1,200x1,200dpi	4,800x1,200dpi	1,200x2,400dpi	1,200dpi	600x1,200dpi	1,200dpi
PHOTO FEATURES									
Borderless printing	A4	A4	A4	A4, custom up to 215x610mm	A4, custom up to 215x610mm	A4	A4	A4	A4
Direct (PC-less) printing	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Memory card support	None	CompactFlash, Secure Digital, MultiMedia Card, Memory Stick, xD	CompactFlash, Secure Digital, MultiMedia Card, Memory Stick, Smart Media	CompactFlash, Secure Digital, MultiMedia Card, Memory Stick, xD	CompactFlash, Secure Digital, MultiMedia Card, Memory Stick, xD	CompactFlash, Secure Digital, MultiMedia Card, Memory Stick, xD	CompactFlash, Secure Digital, MultiMedia Card, Memory Stick, xD	CompactFlash, Secure Digital, MultiMedia Card, Memory Stick, xD	CompactFlash, Secure Digital, MultiMedia Card, Memory Stick, Smart Media, MicroDrive
CD printing	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
GENERAL									
Technology	Thermal inkjet	Piezo inkjet	Thermal inkjet	Thermal inkjet	Thermal inkjet	Piezo inkjet	Thermal inkjet	Thermal inkjet	Thermal inkjet
Language(s)	N/A	N/A	N/A	HP PCL Level 3, PCL3 GUI, PCL 10	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Supplied software	Lexmark All-in-one Center	Epson EasyPrintModule, Web-To-Page, Easy Photo Print, Creativity Suite, ABBYY FineReader 6 Sprint Plus	MP Navigator, Easy-WebPrint, Easy-PhotoPrint, ScanSoft OmniPage SE, ArcSoft PhotoStudio	HP Image Zone, Read IRIS OCR	HP Photosmart Premier, HP Photosmart Express	Epson EasyPrintModule, Web-To-Page, Easy Photo Print, Creativity Suite, ABBYY FineReader 6 Sprint Plus	MP Navigator, Easy-WebPrint, Easy-PhotoPrint, ScanSoft OmniPage SE, ArcSoft PhotoStudio	Brother MFL-Pro Suite, Brother ControlCentre3, ScanSoft Paperport with OCR	MP Navigator, Easy-WebPrint, Easy-PhotoPrint, ScanSoft OmniPage SE, ArcSoft PhotoStudio
Supported operating systems	Windows 98/Me/2000/XP/Vista	Windows 98/Me/2000/XP/Vista, Mac OS X 10.2.8 or later	Windows 98/Me/2000/XP/Vista, Mac OS X 10.2.8 or later	Windows 98/Me/2000/XP/Vista, Mac OS 9.2, OS X 10.1.5 or later	Windows 98/2000/Me/XP/Vista, Mac OS X 10.3.9 or later	Windows 98/Me/2000/XP/Vista, Mac OS X 10.2.8 or later	Windows 98/Me/2000/XP/Vista, Mac OS X 10.2.8 or later	Windows 98/Me/2000/XP/Vista, Mac OS X 10.2 or later	Windows 98/Me/2000/XP/Vista, Mac OS X 10.2.8 or later
Memory	Not disclosed	Not disclosed	Not disclosed	32MB (32MB)	32MB (32MB)	Not disclosed	Not disclosed	32MB (32MB)	Not disclosed
Other features	None	None	None	2in colour screen	2.4in colour screen	2in colour screen	1.9in colour screen	2in colour screen	1.9in colour screen
Other options	None	None	None	None	None	None	None	None	None
PRICE AND WARRANTY									
Street price including VAT	£55	£55	£56	£60	£64	£69	£72	£72	£73
Cost per ISO/IEC 24712 A4 page including VAT	Not disclosed	5.1p	5.7p	4.7p	5.5p	5.1p	5.7p	5.4p	4.3p
Price per colour A4 page inc VAT	6.1p	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Warranty duration and terms	One year onsite swap-out	One year RTB	One year RTB	One year RTB	One year RTB	One year RTB	One year RTB	One year onsite	One year RTB
Supplier	www.ebuyer.com	www.dabs.com	www.ebuyer.com	www.dabs.com	www.ebuyer.com	www.dabs.com	www.ebuyer.com	www.ameiva.co.uk	www.ebuyer.com
Details	www.lexmark.co.uk	www.epson.co.uk	www.canon.co.uk	www.hp.co.uk	www.hp.co.uk	www.epson.co.uk	www.canon.co.uk	www.brother.co.uk	www.canon.co.uk
Part code	0030A0002	C11C650024	1448B008AA	Q7215B#ABU	Q8110B#ABU	C11C657011	1449B008AA	DCP330C1	1450B019AA

Labs verdict Inkjet MFPs

Our tests this month show that a decent MFP needn't cost the earth, but also that it pays to choose carefully. The difference in price between the devices here is no more than £18, but the difference in quality between them is vast.

If you rely on a good scanner for everyday tasks, we recommend HP's £60 Photosmart 2575. It can scan at optical resolutions of up to 2,400x4,800dpi and produces fantastically

detailed results. It produces decent text and document prints, too, and it's ready to connect to a network. It's our Budget Buy.

If you can afford to pay a little more, though, we recommend Canon's Pixma MP510. It's blisteringly quick when printing and scanning, and produces superb results whether you're printing black text or photos. It's also the cheapest device here to run, making it a clear Best Buy. **CS**



CANON Pixma MP510

★★★★★



HP Photosmart 2575

★★★★★

